

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00221 241150Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----015401 241156Z /16
O 241030Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 6722
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL MAPUTO 0221

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: NEXT STEPS

REF: (A) LONDON 2970 (B) DAR 0757: (C) LUSAKA 0569

1. LONDON'S 2979 DID NOT REACH MAPUTO UNTIL THIS MORNING
LONDON'S 2978 HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED, BUT BELIEVE WE
HAVE FAIRLY GOOD IDEA FROM REFTELS WHAT THE BRITISH POSITION
IS AND OFFER FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY COMMENTS.

2. WE FEEL STRONGLY THAT IT WOULD BE SERIOUS MISTAKE FOR
UK TO TRY TO PERSUADE NKOMO TO JOIN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT
ARRANGEMENT, IF UK PERSISTS IN THESE EFFORTS, BELIEVE
THIS WILL EFFECTIVELY SPELL END OF ANGLO- AMERICAN PLAN
AND ALL BUT KILL CHANCES OF ACHIEVING NON MILITARY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00221 241150Z

RESOLUTION OF RHODESIAN PROBLEM. IF MACHEL LEARNS OF UK
MANEUVER--AND WE CAN BE REASONABLY CERTAIN HE WILL
HE WILL WANT NOTHING MORE TO DO WITH THE BRITISH OR
NEGOTIATIONS. HE WILL CONCLUDE THAT HE WAS RIGHT ALL
ALONG THAT THE ONLY WAY THE ZIMBABWEANS WILL EVER ATTAIN
TRUE INDEPENDENCE IS THROUGH THE ARMED STRUGGLE. DESPITE
MOZAMBIQUE'S SERIOUS DOMESTIC ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, MACHEL

WILL CERTAINLY CONTINUE HIS SUPPORT OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND WE WOULD RATE CHANCES ABOUT 75 PER CENT THAT HE WOULD INVITE THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE AND PROMINENT ROLE IN THE STRUGGLE. IF US WERE SEEN TO BE CONDONING OR ACQUIESCING IN THIS BRITISH MANEUVER WE WOULD RATE THE CHANCES AS CLOSE TO 100 PER CENT THAT MACHEL WOULD SEEK MORE ACTIVE FROM THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS.

3. FROM PERSPECTIVE OF MAPUTO, WE FAIL TO SEE WHY UK IS SO EAGER TO SUPPORT SALISBURY SETTLEMENT. SO LONG AS SMITH REMAINS ON THE SCENE WE SEE NO GROUNDSWELL OF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR AN INTERNAL AGREEMENT. ON THE CONTRARY, AS WE MENTIONED IN MAPUTO 214, WE DO NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT THE OAU AND BULK OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MAY IN FACT JOIN MACHEL, NYERERE AND KAUNDA IN CONDEMNING THE SETTLEMENT. IF THIS HAPPENS THE UK AND US (WE DO NOT CLEARLY DISASSOCIATE OURSELVES FROM THE BRITISH) RISK BEING ISOLATED FROM THE OVERWHELMING WEIGHT OF WORLD OPINION, AS WE WERE IN THE LATE 60'S AND EARLY 70'S ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES. MUCH OF THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE IN BLACK AFRICA AND THE UN WOULD BE UNDONE.

4. WE AGREE FULLY WITH DAR AND LUSAKA THAT WE SHOULD MOVE QUICKLY TO STOP OWEN FROM TRYING TO PERSUADE NKOMO TO JOIN IN THE SALISBURY TALKS. IF THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, BELIEVE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MAPUTO 00221 241150Z

WE SHOULD LET IT BE KNOWN THAT WE ARE NOT A PARTY TO THIS MANEUVER.

5. AN EARLY VISIT BY DICK MOOSE TO MAPUTO WOULD BE HELPFUL INsofar AS OUR RELATIONS WITH MACHEL ARE CONCERNED. VISIT WOULD BE GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN FRANKLY TO MACHEL THE SERIOUS DOMESTIC PROBLEMS THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT POSES FOR THE UK AND US. MACHEL IS NOT INSENSITIVE TO DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, AND, AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE, WE BELIEVE HE APPRECIATES WHY THE UK MAY NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE PUBLIC STANCE AGAINST THE INTERNAL ACCORD. HE WILL NOT FORGIVE THE BRITISH HOWEVER, IF THEY GO SO FAR AS TO WORK ACTIVELY IN SUPPORT OF AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT OR IF THE UK TRIES TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN NKOMO AND MUGABE AND UNDERMINE EFFORTS OF THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS.

6. GIVEN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CONTINUE BELIEVE THAT BEST COURSE FOR US AND UK WOULD BE TO INDICATE TO THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS PREFERABLY PUBLICLY BUT IF NOT PRIVATELY OUR DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE TO WORK TO FIND AND INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM.

DE PREE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decapton Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decapton Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MAPUTO00221
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780086-0072
Format: TEL
From: MAPUTO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780217/aaaaaoao.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1fcc38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 LONDON 2970, 78 DAR ES SALAAM 757, 78 LUSAKA 569
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3488687
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: NEXT STEPS
TAGS: PDEV, PINT, RH, UK, (MACHEL, SAMORA), (NKOMO, JOSHUA), (OWEN, DAVID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1fcc38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014